

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A drive device comprising: ~~with~~
an electric drive motor;;
a housing;;
at least one shaft driven by the drive motor, the shaft ~~and with having~~ a
compensating means to compensate for axial play of the shaft;; ~~characterized in that~~
a tapered thrust bearing is having two contact surfaces tapering
radially toward the shaft axis, the tapered thrust bearing positioned on the shaft as for
compensating ~~means, which can be~~ axial play, and operable for radially ~~expanded~~
expanding against a spring force, the ~~thrust bearing~~ shaft having an annular
projection for engaging ~~corresponding to~~ one of the contact surfaces and the housing
having ~~has~~ an annular collar for corresponding to the other contact surface, the
tapered thrust bearing positioned under pre-load between the annular projection and
the annular collar.
2. (Previously Amended) The drive device in accordance with
claim 1, wherein the contact surfaces run symmetrically at an angle of about 15° to a
plane formed by the tapered thrust bearing, where the surfaces of the annular collar
and of the projection which correspond to the contact surfaces have a matching taper.
3. (previously Amended) The drive device in accordance with
claim 1, wherein the tapered thrust bearing is slotted.
4. (Previously Amended) The drive device in accordance with
claim 1, wherein the tapered thrust bearing has slot-like recesses in the area of its
inner circumference.
5. (Previously Amended) The drive device in accordance with
claim 1, wherein the tapered thrust bearing has a slotted spring clamping wire.

6. (Previously Amended) The drive device in accordance with claim 5, wherein the spring clamping wire is located in a groove running around a circumference of the tapered thrust bearing.

7. (Previously Amended) The drive device in accordance with claim 6, wherein the groove has a transverse rib in an area facing away from a slot in the tapered thrust bearing to locate a slot in the spring clamping wire.

8. (Previously Amended) The drive device in accordance with claim 1, wherein the shaft has an annular recess in which the tapered thrust bearing is retained by positive engagement.

9. (Previously Amended) The drive device in accordance with claim 1, wherein the tapered thrust bearing is made of plastic, and the plastic has one of an anti-friction coating of one of graphite and molybdenum disulfide, and contains one of graphite, and molybdenum disulfide.

10. (previously amended) The drive device in accordance with claim 1, wherein the projection is located on a gear wheel.

11. (Previously Amended) The drive device in accordance with claim 1, wherein the projection is made of a plastic.

12. (Previously Amended) The drive device in accordance with claim 1, wherein the annular collar is located on a housing cover of the housing.

13. (Previously Added) The drive device of claim 11 wherein the plastic is polyethylene oxide.

14. (Previously Added) The drive device of claim 12 wherein the housing cover is a zinc die-cast cover.

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 1. This sheet replaces the original sheet.